

Remarks

Claims 1-36 and 38-63 are pending in the application, and stand rejected. Claim 37 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim rejections

Section 102

Claims 1-2, 8-14, 16-19, 21-24, 28-31, 33, 36-38, 42-46 and 50-57 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Lunsford et al. (US App. Pub. No. 2002/0065041) ("Lunsford"). The Applicant respectfully traverses. Lunsford cannot support the asserted rejection for at least the reason that Lunsford does not disclose "generating a dialing request at a remote control device based on an operation of a dedicated control of the remote control device, the dedicated control dedicated to generating the dialing request to automatically form a connection with network-based communication services including at least one of a voice-controlled and a messaging service," as recited in independent claim 1. The other independent claims recite substantially similar features.

It is noted that the Examiner argues that Lunsford discloses an access button dedicated to network-based communication services. The Applicant respectfully disagrees. The cited portions of Lunsford only disclose selection of a number to be dialed by a cell phone from among a list of numbers. See, e.g., paragraph 57: "... a user ... select[s] a specific contact using contact management program 101"; or paragraph 65: "Upon initiation, the particular program can present a list of individuals/organizations from which the user can select the desired individual/organization to contact." The preceding does not describe a dedicated control, since a number of options are selected from. Moreover, Lunsford only discloses automatically dialing a cell phone number by remote control; it does not disclose that the dialed number forms a connection with network-based communication services including at least one of a voice-controlled and a messaging service, as required by the present claims.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 23, 33, 36, 44, 52, 54 and 56 are allowable over Lunsford, as are claims dependent thereon for at least the reasons discussed in

connection with the independent claims. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-2, 8-14, 16-19, 21-24, 28-31, 33, 36, 38, 42-46 and 50-57 as being anticipated by Lunsford is therefore respectfully requested.

Section 103

Claims 3-5, 25-27, 35, 39-41, 47-49 and 58-61 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lunsford in view of Myers (US App. Pub. No. 2004/0254816). The Applicant respectfully traverses. Each of the listed claims depends on one of independent claims 1, 23, 33, 36, 44, 52, 54 and 56, which are allowable over Lunsford as discussed previously. Myers does not remedy deficiencies in Lunsford, being similarly silent, for example, as to “generating a dialing request at a remote control device based on an operation of a dedicated control of the remote control device, the dedicated control dedicated to generating the dialing request to automatically form a connection with network-based communication services including at least one of a voice-controlled and a messaging service,” as recited in independent claim 1, and the parallel recitations in the other independent claims. The independent claims are therefore allowable over the combination of Lunsford and Myers. Accordingly, claims 3-5, 25-27, 35, 39-41, 47-49 and 58-61 are likewise allowable over Lunsford and Myers for at least the reason that they include the features of one of the independent claims by dependence thereon. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3-5, 25-27, 35, 39-41, 47-49 and 58-61 as being unpatentable over Lunsford and Myers is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 6-7 and 62-63 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lunsford in view of Myers, and further in view of Cheung (US App. Pub. No. 2004/0024647). The Applicant respectfully traverses. Claims 6 and 7 depend on claim 1, and claims 62 and 63 depend on claim 56. Claims 1 and 56 are allowable over Lunsford and Myers as discussed previously, and Cheung does not cure deficiencies in Lunsford and Myers with respect to claims 1 and 56, also for reasons discussed previously. Claims 1 and 56 are therefore allowable over the combination of Lunsford, Myers and Cheung. Accordingly, claim 6, 7, 62 and 63 are likewise allowable over

Lunsford, Myers and Cheung for at least the reasons discussed in connection with claims 1 and 56. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6, 7, 62 and 63 as being unpatentable over Lunsford, Myers and Cheung is therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 15, 20 and 32 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lunsford in view of Kumar et al. (US App. Pub. No. 2003/0081758) ("Kumar"). The Applicant respectfully traverses. Claims 15 and 20 depend on claim 1, and claim 32 depends on claim 23. Lunsford and Kumar fail to suggest the features of independent claims 1 and 23, for reasons discussed previously. Therefore, claims 15, 20 and 32 are allowable over Lunsford and Kumar for at least the reason that they depend on one of claims 1 or 23. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 15, 20 and 32 as being unpatentable over Lunsford and Kumar is therefore respectfully requested.

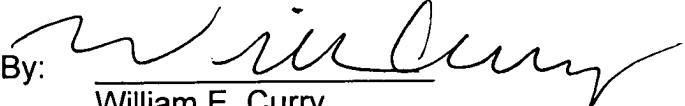
Conclusion

In light of the above discussion, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in all aspects in allowable condition, and earnestly solicits favorable reconsideration and early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4323 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is authorized to charge any fees related to this communication to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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